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CENTRAL FAX CENTER**JUL 25 2005****FAX COVER SHEET**NO. OF PAGES: COVER SHEET PLUS 13 PAGE(S)TO: Examiner Julian W. Wood Group Art Unit 3731FAX TELEPHONE NO.: (571) 273-8300FROM: Gary M. GronDATE: July 25, 2005☐ **CONFIRMATION OF RECEIPT REQUESTED IF CHECKED.**☐ **WILL** ☐ **BY MAIL** ☐ **BY COURIER****ORIGINAL COPY AND ANY ENCLOSURES BE SENT**☒ **WILL NOT**

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**JUL 25 2005**

In re patent application of: )  
Hathaway ) Before the Examiner  
Serial No. 10/008,781 ) Woo, Julian W.  
Filed November 13, 2001 )  
APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR )  
POSITIVE CLOSURE OF AN )  
INTERNAL TISSUE MEMBRANE )  
OPENING ) July 25, 2005

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated April 25, 2005, Applicants respectfully request entry of the following amendments and consideration of the accompanying remarks.

Amendments to the claims begin on page 2 of this transmittal.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this transmittal.

Additionally, please provide any extensions of time that may be necessary and charge any fees that may be due to Deposit Account No. 23-3030, but do not include any payment of issue fees that are or may become due.

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